

LOG OF MEETING
OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

CPSC 6/1/97 Cleared
X No New Products
Products Identified
____ Excepted by
____ Firms Notified
____ Comments Processed

APR 04 1997

SUBJECT: Serious Problems of Compliance with the general wearing apparel flammability standard.

DATE OF MEETING: March 25, 1997 **PLACE:** Rm 410 East West Towers

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Patricia Fairall, Assistant Director, CRM *PAF*

DATE OF ENTRY: March 27, 1997

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: See Attached List

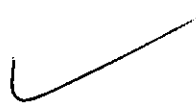
NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: See Attached List

SUMMARY OF MEETING: The meeting was requested by CPSC to discuss serious problems of compliance with the general wearing apparel flammability standard involving fleece, chenille and other suspect fabrics.

1. David Schmeltzer, CPSC Assistant Executive Director, provided opening remarks which summarized the history of the standard, the minimal flammability protection provided by the standard, and a summary of the types of fabrics involved in the over 1 million garments CPSC has recalled since 1994. Mr. Schmeltzer also showed two video clips from the TODAY SHOW involving recent garment recalls (2/28/97 and 2/24/97). Mr. Schmeltzer also indicated that two years ago (3/15/95) we met with this industry after recalls of 400,000 garments to make sure this did not continue. We now have another 760,000 garments that have been recalled since that meeting.

2. Bob Barker, American Fiber Manufacturers Association, stated that CPSC should invite the right people to these meetings. He stated that none of the recalls involved products produced by the domestic textile association members. He also stated that when CPSC goes on TV to promote a recall that we are harming the domestic textile business that is producing the same types of fabrics but these fabrics don't fail.

3. David Schmeltzer, CPSC, strongly suggested that retailers be more responsible by asking for and receiving guarantees or test results from importers and manufacturers. Dave Schmeltzer also indicated that we are planning to assess civil penalties. The confusion with garment recalls was also discussed. It was suggested that garments should have permanent style numbers to lessen the confusion when garment recalls are conducted.



4. Ron Pacheco, Inchscape Testing Services, indicated that many companies are only doing one single test involving these suspect garments and if they get a pass they are relying solely on this one test.

5. Dave Schmeltzer, CPSC, then provided a summary listing of some test results involving one style of garment which indicated a variety of test classifications to indicate that one single test with these types of suspect garments may not constitute reasonable and representative testing.

6. The industry in general was in favor of assessing penalties in instances of violations.

7. Kay Villa, American Textile Manufacturers Association, also suggested that CPSC attend more trade shows and ask to speak at more textile oriented meetings. CPSC will be looking into this.

Distribution:

OS(2)

EXHR

EX

OGC

EXC

Date: March 25, 1997

Time: 10:00 am

Subject: General Wearing Apparel Flammability

Location: CPSC Headquarters - Bethesda, MD - Room 410

Name	Company	Phone
Patricia Fairall	U.S. Consumer Product Safety Comm	(301)504-0400 Ext. 1369
Linda Caviness	Consumer Testing Labs at Wal-Mart	(501) 273-8028
Sara Yerkes	NFPA Fire Protection Assn	703-516-4346
ROBERT BARKER	Am Fiber Mfrs Assn	202-296-6508
THOMAS CHAN	SSS US TESTING	(301) 575-5252
Duncan A. Nixon	Sharrett's Policy/AAET	202-223-4433
KAY VILLA	ATMI	202-862-0500
P. Walklin	NCL	202 745 7805
Howard Tarnoff	US CPSC	301-504-0628 x 1302
M. HAGGARD	Wiley Reinhold Fielding	202 826 4465
Marilyn Borsan	CPSC	504-0400 X1370
Bob Potin	CPSC	504-0400 X1375
Allison Wolf	AAMA	703/524-1864 x24
Patty ADAR	NCC	202/745-7805
Dennis Wilson	CPSC-COMG	8301-504-0458
Jim Weller	CPSC	
Gayle Lambert	NKSA	212-683-7520
Am Pacheco	ITS	201 785 7550
Bruce Navarro	Navarro Legislative Regulatory Affairs for Ross Ares, Inc.	(202) 855-6000
Dan Rutherford	CPSC	504-0539 x 1278
Sam Cristy	Product Safety Letter	703/247-3423
Margaret Neely	CPSC	(301) 504-0550 x 2354
Meq Farrage	IMRA	703-841-2300